## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

NAOMI ALSTON

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Plaintiff,

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

VS.

GAUDIOSO CONSTRUCTION, INC.,

TRI-STATE PAVING &

CONSTRUCTION, INC., TRI-STATE

**PAVING & CONSTRUCTION** 

Defendants,

MAY TERM, 2016

NO. 1329

And

GAUDIOSO CONSTRUCTION, INC.,

Third Party Plaintiff,

VS.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Third Party Defendant.

## **NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441, 1442(a)(1), and 2679(d) defendant United States of America hereby removes this action to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and represents the following in support thereof:

- 1. Plaintiff, Naomi Alston, filed a complaint in the Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia County, on or about May 10, 2016 (May Term, 2016 No. 1329) alleging that the negligence of Gaudioso Construction, Inc. ("Gaudioso") and/or Tri State Paving & Construction, Inc. caused or contributed to a fall in which plaintiff alleges she was injured. See Ex. A (Complaint).
- 2. Defendant Gaudioso filed a "Joinder Complaint" against the United States on or about June 30, 2016 alleging that the negligence of employees of the United States acting within

the scope of their employment caused or contributed to plaintiff's alleged injuries. See Ex. B (Joinder Complaint).

- 3. Tort claims arising from the conduct of federal employees acting within the scope of their employment must be brought pursuant to the Federal Tort Claims Act. See 28 U.S.C. § 2671, et seq.
- 4. Removal is appropriate for three reasons. First, any civil action commenced in state court against the United States may be removed by the United States to the United States District Court for the District in which the state court action is pending. See 28 U.S.C. § 1442(a)(1). Second, 28 U.S.C. § 1441 also permits removal of any civil action of which the district courts have original jurisdiction founded on a claim arising under the laws of the United States (and the district court has jurisdiction to determine whether there is jurisdiction under a particular federal statute). This claim must be brought pursuant to the Federal Tort Claims Act, which is a law of the United States. Third, removal is appropriate under the Federal Tort Claims Act at any time before trial. 28 U.S.C. § 2679(d)(2).

5. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), a certified copy of this Notice is being filed with the Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted,

ZANE DAVID MEMEGER United States Attorney

MARGARET L. HUTCHINSON Assistant United States Attorney Chief, Civil Division

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Attorneys for the United States of America

Dated: July 13, 2016

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Notice of Removal was served on July 13,

2016 by First Class United States Mail, postage prepaid, upon the following:

Timothy R. Hough, Esq. Two Penn Center, Suite 1907 1500 JFK Boulevard Philadelphia, PA 19102 Counsel for Plaintiff

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Counsel for Gaudioso Construction, Inc.

JOHN T. CRUTCHLOW

Assistant United States Attorney